

15 June 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, CIA Career Council

SUBJECT : Dissemination of Information Concerning Agency Honor Awards.

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1. In his memorandum of 20 April 1956 addressed to the Chairman, CIA Career Council, [REDACTED] Chief of Operations, DD/P, expressed the position of the Clandestine Services in respect to dissemination of information concerning awards issued by the Agency. Two of the conditions stated impress the Honor Awards Board as being so restrictive as to deprive Agency employees of basic knowledge relevant to the program. For example, it is stated in Paragraph 4.b. "Because of operational security considerations peculiar to the Clandestine Services we would be opposed to the publication in an annual announcement, newsletter or posting of numbers or names of CS Honor Awards. For the same reason we would be opposed to a show case or framed certificate display of existing Honor Awards or the issuance of lapel ribbons or rosettes."

2. The Honor Awards Board believes that a compromise could be reached if the total number of employees receiving Agency decorations is announced in a classified Agency publication or presented in a suitable display. Further, the Honor Awards Board believes that a misunderstanding may exist in respect to the proposal to display medallions and certificates to Agency personnel as the exhibit is envisaged only as an opportunity for Agency personnel to see the tokens they may aspire to win for making outstanding contributions to the Agency.

3. The Board will be pleased to develop its views further if the Career Council believes such a step would be helpful.

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Chairman
CIA Honor Awards Board

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